

**Summary of Cases Reported in California<sup>1</sup> as Associated With<sup>2</sup> Pesticide Exposure Summarized by Gender, Age Distribution, by Type of Pesticide and by Type of Use  
2003**

**Agricultural Use Pesticide Exposure Incidents<sup>3</sup>**

Age Group	Pesticides other than Antimicrobial Pesticides <sup>4</sup>			Antimicrobial Pesticides <sup>4</sup>			TOTAL
	Male	Female	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown	
0 - 9	28	30	0	0	0	0	58
10 - 14	19	11	0	0	0	0	30
15 - 19	14	13	0	1	0	0	28
20 - 29	37	27	0	8	1	0	73
30 - 39	36	27	0	1	1	0	65
40 - 49	30	22	0	5	0	0	57
50 - 59	19	8	0	2	0	0	29
60 - 69	7	4	0	0	0	0	11
70 +	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unknown	28	24	1	0	0	0	53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>405</b>

**Non-Agricultural Use Pesticide Exposure Incidents<sup>3</sup>**

Age Group	Pesticides other than Antimicrobial Pesticides <sup>4</sup>			Antimicrobial Pesticides <sup>4</sup>			TOTAL
	Male	Female	Unknown	Male	Female	Unknown	
0 - 9	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
10 - 14	2	0	0	0	1	0	3
15 - 19	1	1	0	16	10	0	28
20 - 29	23	7	0	37	36	0	103
30 - 39	16	12	0	44	36	0	108
40 - 49	14	12	0	21	32	0	79
50 - 59	10	2	0	14	13	0	39
60 - 69	3	5	0	2	5	0	15
70 +	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Unknown	7	3	0	2	4	0	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>397</b>

<sup>1</sup> **Source:** California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Pesticide Illness and Surveillance Program.

<sup>2</sup> **Associated With:** Includes cases classified as definitely, probably or possibly related to pesticide exposure

- Definite : High degree of correlation between pattern of exposure and resulting symptomatology. Requires both medical evidence (such as measured cholinesterase inhibition, positive allergy tests, characteristic signs observed by medical professional) and physical evidence of exposure (environmental and/or biological samples, exposure history) to support the conclusions.
- Probable : Relatively high degree of correlation exists between the pattern of exposure and the resulting symptomatology. Either medical or physical evidence is inconclusive or unavailable.
- Possible : Some degree of correlation evident. Medical and physical evidence are inconclusive or unavailable.

<sup>3</sup> **Intended Use:** Agricultural/Non-Agricultural - Indicates whether the suspected pesticide(s) is intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities.

- Agricultural : The pesticide(s) were intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities, including livestock. This includes: 1) agricultural research facilities, 2) handling of raw agricultural commodities in packing houses, 3) drift from agricultural applications into non-agricultural areas, and 4) transportation and storage of pesticides on farm lands. It excludes forestry operations, although they are classified as agricultural for regulatory purposes. It also excludes manufacture, transportation, and storage of pesticides prior to arrival at the site of agricultural production.
- Non-Agricultural : The pesticide(s) were not intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities. This includes: 1) residential pesticide uses, 2) structural pest control, 3) rights-of-way, 4) parks, 5) landscaped urban areas, and 6) manufacture, transportation and storage of pesticides except on farm lands.

<sup>4</sup> **Antimicrobial :** Pesticides used to kill or inactivate microbiological organisms (bacteria, viruses, etc.).

#### **Whom to Contact:**

California Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Worker Health and Safety Branch  
Phone: (916) 445-4222.  
Physical address: 1001 I St., Sacramento CA 95814-2828.  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 4015, Sacramento, CA 95812-4015  
Fax: (916) 445-4280  
[www.cdpr.ca.gov](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov)

#### **About the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program Data**

Pesticide-related illnesses have been tracked within the state of California for more than 50 years. The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) maintains a surveillance program which records human health effects of pesticide exposure. The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) documents information on adverse effects from pesticide products, whether elicited by the active ingredients, inert ingredients, impurities, or breakdown products. This program maintains a database, which is utilized for evaluating the circumstances of pesticide exposures resulting in illness. This database is consulted regularly by staff who evaluate(s) the effectiveness of the DPR pesticide safety programs and recommend changes when appropriate.